

Message Text

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ORIGIN PA-03

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-15 FILE-01 SSO-00 ADP-00

ARA-11 EUR-25 PM-09 SAJ-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 /080 R

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5/14/73 22376

APPROVED BY S/ S- O: SEFRY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 8

E. O.11652: N/ A

TAGS; US, PINT, PFOR

SUBJECT; AMERICAN NEWS AND COMMENT, MONDAY, MAY 14

1. HIGHLIGHTS. WASHPOST FRONTPAGES FBI OFFICIALS WARNED
GRAY OF COVER- UP; SENATE PANEL MAY ASK TALK BY NIXON;
SKYLAB POISED FOR LAUNCH.

1. A. WASHPOST INSIDE, PAGE TEN HAS MEXICAN CHIEF SEES
ROGERS; VIETCONG ACCUSE US BOMBING SVN; SENATORS CASE,
CHURCH PLAN WAR FUND CUTOFF ATTEMPT. ALSO, LEBANON
FIGHTING FAILS TO RESOLVE KEY ISSUES; QADDAFI SAYS
US THREATENS LIBYA. ALSO, BREZHNEV' S GOAL: PERMANENT
PEACE. NO COMMENT.

2. WASHPOST LOCAL WOODWARD AND BERNSTEIN REPORT ACC
RELIABLE SOURCES, TOP FBI OFFICIALS WARNED GRAY SEVERAL
WEEKS AFTER WATERGATE BREAK- IN THERE APPEARED TO BE
COVER- UP AND URGED GRAY ALERT PRESIDENT- GRAY
DECLINED BECAUSE, ACC STORY, SOURCES SAID HE FELT IT
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IMPROPER AND MIGHT APPEAR AS IF HE WERE SEEKING GUIDANCE FROM NIXON. ALSO, ACC RELIABLE SOURCES, FBI COMMUNICATIONS USED BY MITCHELL EARLY LAST YEAR TO SEND SECRET CABLE TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT TO OBTAIN ASSISTANCE FOR VESCO IN HIS ATTEMPT GAIN CONTROL

MIDDLE EASTERN BANK.

2. A. WASHPOST LOCAL WALSH REPORTS SENATOR BAKER ON NBC- TV MEET THE PRESS SAID NIXON MAY BE INVITED TO COMMENT ON WATERGATE TO SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE QUOTE THROUGH COUNSEL, BY STATEMENT OR OTHERWISE UNQUOTE.

3. WASHPOST PAGE TEN MEXICO CITY SIMONS REPORTS SECRETARY ROGERS PRESENTED QUOTE CONCRETE AND SERIOUS PROPOSAL UNQUOTE TO END LONG DISPUTE BETWEEN US, MEXICO OVER HIGH SALINITY COLORADO RIVER. AFTER TWO HOUR MTG WITH PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, ROGERS EXPLAINED PROPOSAL BASED ON REPORT BY BROWNELL. NO DETAILS OF US POSITION TO BE MADE PUBLIC UNTIL MEXICO STUDIES IT, BUT ACC SIMONS, INFORMED SOURCES SAID WASHINGTON HAD AGREED TO SPEND BETWEEN FIFTY AND SIXTY MILLIONS TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF COLORADO RIVER WATER. MEASURES WOULD INCLUDE, SAYS SIMONS, CONSTRUCTION OF DESALINATION PLANT ON US SIDE OF BORDER. AT MEETING, ROGERS ALSO DELIVERED LETTER FROM NIXON THANKING MEXICO FOR SAVING LIFE OF LEONHARDY. PRESIDENT'S REFERENCE TO LEONHARDY, ACC SIMONS, SEEN AS EFFORT TO APPEASE MEXICO. MEETING WITH ECHEVERRIA ALSO TOUCHED ON TRADE PREFERENCES, PROPOSED RESTRUCTURING OF OAS AND PROBLEM OF MEXICANS ENTERING US ILLEGALLY.

4. WASHPOST BEIRUT RANDAL REPORTS LEBANON FIGHTING FAILS RESOLVE KEY ISSUES. PRESIDENT FRANGIE AND LEBANON MILITARY AFTER TEN DAYS FIGHTING HAVE STILL NOT WEAKENED PALESTINIANS' POWER. WITH NO SOLUTION IN SIGHT, SAYS RANDAL, FRANGIE COULD LOSE ARMY SUPPORT.

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4. A. WASHPOST NEWS DISPATCHES REPORTING QADDAFI ACCUSES US OF PROVOCATIVE ACTS BY CARRIER AIRCRAFT, SAYS LIBYANS CAN DIE FOR RIGHTS.

5. WASHPOST BERLIN UPI REPORTS BREZHNEV TELLS EAST

BERLINERS PROSPECTS BRIGHT FOR PERMANENT PEACE,
HONORABLE BUSINESSLIKE COOPERATION IN EUROPE.

6. REGRET NYTIMES NOT AVAILABLE FOR INCLUSION THIS
REPORT. RUSH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE091192
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: D. BARRETT; J. MCNAUGHTON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730543/aaaajccs.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Aug-2001 by phillir0>; APPROVED <06-Sep-2001 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980209
Subject: AMERICAN NEWS AND COMMENT, MONDAY, MAY 14
TAGS: PFOR, n/a
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005